

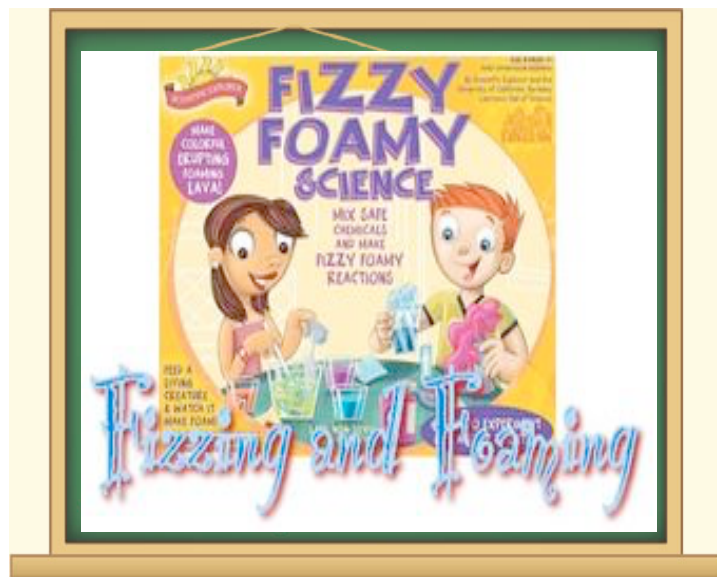
Middle Team Newsletter – T2

Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

A warm welcome back to Term 2.

As always we are excited about the activities we have planned for students this term. The teachers appreciated meeting with many of you at our Parent / Teacher interviews. We appreciate your support and look forward to our students make further progress this term.



Term 1 Topics

Our main topic for this term will focus on **Science**. Students will investigate the physical and chemical properties of common materials and changes that occur when they are mixed, heated or cooled through our work on “**Change – Fizzing and Foaming**”. This will involve students observing, describing and experimenting with different materials. We have included a small cost in the activity fee to cover the purchase of many of the materials required.

In addition, as part of our literacy programme, students will identify and apply the key features of Narratives. The students will examine the features of narratives and how to create exciting stories that include interesting characters and settings. We look forward to showcasing them on our Middle Team Wiki - <https://spsmiddleteam.wikispaces.com>

In week 3, 16 May we will be sending out the ATHON sheets. This year the focus is on General Knowledge and learning the facts will be included as part of weekly Home Learning.

Our numeracy strand will focus on statistics and probability, with students creating and displaying survey data. Students will continue developing number strategies through problem solving tasks.

Our Autumn sports programme continues with a focus on large, team ball games such as hockey, netball, touch, mini ball and soccer. These will take place on Wednesday afternoons. We would ask that your child wear the appropriate clothing for these lessons.

We would encourage you to continue to support weekly home learning and to help students learn basic facts and times tables at home. Home learning also includes students working on Mathletics and other online activities that your child's teacher has set up. Home Learning will come home on Monday and is due back on Friday. Good attendance will also be necessary as the teachers continue to assess and monitor your child's learning. Mrs Dewar would like to extend an invitation for all parents and students to visit her blog: <http://esolsps.blogspot.co.nz/?m=1> where we share our Cultural Diversity.

Clubs and Activities

It is good to see many of our children taking part in choir and Kapa Haka. A number of sports teams have begun and students can enjoy a range of extra curricular activities. Students are reminded through weekly announcements about these activities so that they know when and where they take place.

School Newsletters

Please check for any letters that come home and on class notice boards. This term Rooms 20, 19, 6, 5 and 4 will be swimming. The term activity fee will include the cost of this and a small charge for science materials. School newsletters come home on Thursdays and are also available online and on the new school website: <http://sunnynook.school.nz>

Important dates for Middle School this term

- Tuesday 4 May - Swimming begins Room 19
- Monday 16 May - Knowledge-a-thon forms go out
- Tuesday 17 May - Dental Van arrives at school
- Friday 20 May - Swimming begins Room 20
- Wednesday 25 May - Swimming begins Room 6
- Friday 3 June - Testing for Knowledge-a-thon
- Monday 6 June - Queen's Birthday - school closed
- Tuesday 7 June - Swimming begins Room 5
- Tuesday 7 June - Chess afternoon
- Friday 17 June - Swimming begins Room 4
- Monday 27 June - Knowledge-a-thon Assembly
- Thursday 7 July - KOS Parent meeting 2pm
- Friday 8 July - School ends - MUFTI Day

The school day begins at 8.50am and it is important that your child is at school on time. Children are welcome to be in the classrooms or playground from 8.30am. If your child regularly arrives before 8.30am it may be best that they are enrolled in the SKIDS before school programme.

School finishes at 3pm. If you are late picking up your child they will be waiting in the office area. Parents arriving to pick up students for appointments must report to the office, who will call the student from their room. If your child is absent please phone the office. Check the Term 1 school newsletters for details of our School Calendar App to download on your computer or phone.

Families are reminded to pay their activity fee so that students can participate in Middle Team activities planned for this term. We appreciate your support with the prompt payment of fees.

We look forward to a successful and settled term 2.

Kind regards

Rodger Darkens

Team Leader on behalf of the Middle School Teachers:

Kelley Olsen, Debbie Barham, Hannah Gates, Karen Swinton and Carrick Wilson

